

Swatantra Party Parliamentary Office

485

53 North Avenue,
New Delhi.

December 5, 1967.

A meeting of the Executive Committee of the Party Parliament was held at 10.30 A.M. in the Party Room, Central Hall Parliament House, New Delhi. The following Members attended:

1. Prof. N.G. Ranga
2. Prof. M. Ruthnaswamy
3. Shri Loknath Misra
4. Shri R.R. Singh Deo
5. Shri J. Mohd. Imam
6. Shri J.M. Lobo Prabhu
7. Shri D.N. Patodia
8. Shri K.P. Singh Deo

The following Members were requested to speak on the items shown against their names:

Official Language Bill and Resolution on Official Languages	1. Shri R.R. Singh Deo 2. Shri J. Mohd. Imam or Dr. Santhosham 3. Shri Piloo Mody 4. Prof. N.G. Ranga
Supplementary Demands for Grants (General)	1. Shri S.K. Tapuriah 2. Shri N.K. Somani
Industrial Disputes Bill	1. Shri R.J. Amin
Motion regarding law and order situation in Delhi	1. Shri Viren Shah or Shri J.M. Lobo Prabhu
International Affairs	Mr. M.R. Masani

There was a discussion on the official languages Bill. Some Members were in favour of the Bill while others were opposed to the Bill and were in favour of a constitution amendment. It was decided that we should write a letter to Rajaji conveying the reactions of our Members and ask him for his advice in this regard.

Shri D.N. Patodia was requested to officiate as a Whip during the current week as all three whips would be away from Delhi.

Note of Secretary - Resolved it may be sent to Members.

sd. J.M. Lobo Prabhu
Secretary

It is necessary that the Party should make a definite impact in Parliament by organising the Members to take advantage of all the opportunities available. In respect of questions, there should be at least five Members every day who should be ready to ask supplementaries on ten questions which generally come up. If possible, a draft of these supplementaries could be made available to Members. On some subjects like Information & Broadcasting, Education, Irrigation and External Affairs there is a conspicuous lack of supplementaries from the Party. It would be useful if Members would offer themselves to specialise on these Ministries which would enable them to ask supplementaries.

At zero hour unless the Members are already ballotted it is difficult for them to intervene in the debate. The more established speakers could, however, try as Members of other parties do to intervene in the debate.

It is not possible to accommodate more than a limited number of speakers during any discussion. In this connection while there are two considerations which have to be recognised, first, giving chance to every member so that he does not disappoint his electorate and, second, giving the chance to the Member who can put the case most effectively on a particular subject in the interests of the Party. It would help if the members who wish to speak on motions would let the Executive Secretary know as soon as possible after the business of the week is announced on Friday of their desire. Apart from those who are selected to speak other members can participate in motions by giving amendments and substitute motions. These require 24 hours notice. The position regarding bills is primarily the same. There is more scope to speak on the second and third reading of the bills for which notice is not required.

In respect of private resolutions and bills, there is no limit to the number of speakers. Members who wish therefore to participate should give notice directly on Friday or through the Executive Secretary on Thursday evening. It is very important that our Members should take advantage of these bills to project the principles of the Party.

On half-an-hour discussions similarly there is no limit to the questions which may be asked provided notice is given before 11 in the morning. Here also Members should take advantage of projecting the Party's views.

sd. J.M. Lobo Prabhu